Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: If there is delay in the despatch of work the person responsible will have to explain for it.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that applications for transfer of registry are pending years old?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know Sir, who this exporter is, with regard to the importation that is mentioned in sub-clause (*a*)? Naturally it must be exported by somebody.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: It is not a case of export and import. For one thing the Food Department is organised and a few hands from the Revenue Department had to be taken over there. Then certain hands volunteered for war service in the earlier years of war. That was one other reason. The third reason was, the work increased in all the offices throughout the State and naturally new hands had to be appointed. Fresh posts were sanctioned and that necessitated again the appointments of inexperienced clerks. It is all these factors together that have brought about rather an inconvenient situation now. But that has to be got over somehow.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know whether the Hon'ble Secretary is in a position to give an answer which is sought for; 'Importation' is mentioned here in the question. Naturally it must be the result of export. I want to know which is the agency that exported them.

Mr. President: Order, order. The Government are not responsible for the wording of the question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Will Government be pleased to state how they have been pleased to understand the meaning of the word 'Importation', in what sense have they understood that.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Appointment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, who is the appointing agency that sends these hands to these offices?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: They are all appointments made by the Staff Selection Board. Up to Rs. 100 it is the Staff Selection Board that makes the appointment. Above that it is the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: With regard to the fixed rules of the Staff Selection Board, do things take place like this? *i. e.*, a gentleman having experience of an Anchal Master for 12 days is necessitated to be sent down to the Medical Office, surely as a clerk for another 20 days and later on to School Master's post and later on to Forester's post? Does not that take place?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: There is no compulsion like that. So long as the minimum qualification for the different posts is the same there is no objection to appoint the same hand to different posts when vacancies arise. That has to be done in case he happens to be the seniormost and also the claim of the particular community to which he belongs has to be satisfied. There is no compulsion to send him to different incongruous posts like this.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: My question was because of the fixed rules in the Staff Selection Board whether this as a matter of fact does not take place?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: It may happen and sometimes does happen.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: In view of the answer with the word "sometimes", is it not the case, often it does happen?

Mr. President: Order, order. Government have given their answer.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: The supplementary question is.....

Mr. President: The answer is "sometimes". You cannot compel Government to alter that.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Thank you for the information and correction. Therefore I seek to enquire further whether instead of "sometimes" as answered by the Secretary....

Mr. President: Order, order.

STAFF SELECTION BOARD—QUESTION OF ABOLITION

42. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have noted the Editorial article in the "Sahodaran" dated 6th Thulam 1119, under the Caption (അവരുടെ പണിത്തരങ്ങൾ) "the nature of their workings";

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(*b*) whether the Government have any idea of abolishing the Staff Selection Board;

(*c*) whether the statement contained in the first sentence of the article read as follows is true;

"Sentence." സ്റ്റാഫ് സിലക്ഷൻ ബോർഡുകൊണ്ടു സുപ്രീസിനു വിഷമമുണ്ടെന്നു വരുത്തിക്കൂട്ടി അതു എടുത്തുകളയുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിനെ പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ശ്രമം പലവഴിക്കും ശ്രദ്ധമായും പരസ്യമായും നടക്കുന്നതായി തോന്നുന്നുണ്ട്.

(*d*) if not, why was the Government refraining from contradicting such baseless statements;

(*e*) whether the Government have noted that the local Malayalam press had been conducting a sort of propaganda for and against the abolition of the Staff Selection Board within the last one year;

(*f*) whether the Government be pleased to state whether they are going to end the Staff Selection Board or are going to end the working of the Board?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Government did not consider it necessary to contradict the statement.

(*e*) There were reports in the Press for and against the abolition of the Staff Selection Board.

(*f*) The question does not arise in view of answer to sub-division (*b*).

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know Sir, how the Government will be pleased to translate the Malayalam expression "അവരുടെപണിത്തരങ്ങൾ"?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: I don't think that it is asking for information to ask me to translate the expression in Malayalam.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: It is very relevant to the question. For your information, here there are two Malayalam words used which mean "their method of work". If it is in the same sense that the Government has understood those word. I want to know, because my supplementary question will be on the meaning I put on it.

Mr. President: The translation is already there in the question. *(Laughter)*.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: There is nothing for a smile. Here it is stated that it is the questioner's rendering. May I know whether the Government rendered the same as the equivalent of the expression.

Mr. President: I take it that the Government understood the Malayalam expression in the sense given by the author of the question.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North)*: May I know whether in the selection of candidates who have applied to the Staff Selection Board to posts, any mode of testing the efficiency of the candidate is at present applied?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: There is the degree or the technical qualification that they have acquired. Then there is the actual experience they have in various departments. These are all the two main criteria. And also I must just add that we also insist upon the necessary certificate from the Head of the Department or the Head of Office under whom this officer would have worked before. If there is anything against this officer, the Head of the Office would have noted it in the certificate. That is the only guide for making the appointments.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North)*: For example, suppose 100 graduates apply to the Staff Selection Board for posts. May I know whether any *modus opperandi* is observed by which the best candidate is selected by the Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: These are the only two criteria.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North)*: So, at present, there is no test or criterion by which the best candidate is selected.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: There is no written or oral examination for that.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know whether in the making of appointments which is the subject-matter of this question they ever observe Rule No. 4 prescribed for the working of the Staff Selection Board. If the Government is not aware of that, I will read it with the permission of the Chair.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Government have got a copy of the rules.

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M. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Please answer that question whether that rule is observed in practice.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. It is observed in practice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of that answer that it is observed, and they select the best candidates, if that is so, the Board will be at liberty to summon the candidates for personal interview and to conduct *viva voce* examination for the purpose of testing the general knowledge and efficiency of the candidate. May I know whether that is observed.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not incumbent on the Board to summon candidates. The Board is at liberty to summon the candidates and conduct if necessary a *viva voce* examination. In case it is necessary we will do it. We are never doing it.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to introduce a test to secure the point of efficiency required.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* As a matter of fact, it has not been brought to the notice of the Government that there is anything intrinsically wrong in the method of selection that is now adopted. Even before the Staff Selection Board was constituted, there was no written examination, oral examination or *viva voce* examination before any candidate was selected by the Head of the Department. The only difference is we are now going by the acting service and also the discharge certificates from the Heads of Offices where they last served; and we also see to the claims of the various communities. So far as the present method is concerned, it is much better than before the Staff Selection Board came into operation. If it has to be improved, it is a different question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of the answer, may I know whether it is not the case of the Government that the practice that existed before the constitution of the Staff Selection Board has been continued, with the few exceptions that were mentioned by the Hon'ble Secretary?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That one item of exception is important, the total acting service he has put in Government service. It is by service that he gains experience.

Mr. President: Order, order. The hon'ble member must put his remarks in the form of a question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether in the light of the answer previous to the one that was given it is not case of the old order being continued even after the constitution of the Staff Selection Board, with the very salutary exceptions mentioned by the Secretary to Government.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That is a matter of opinion on which Government cannot give a definite answer.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* With the strictest and the most available consideration of the unrepresented communities will Government be pleased to state whether they have any objection to hold a test in selecting candidates.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That is a big question to which I cannot give a definite answer.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to consider the suggestion?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* We will consider.

43. Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to an article by Mr. T. C. Gopalan published on page 3 of the "Sahodharan" newspaper in its issue of 14th August 1943 under the Caption "will the greedy monopolists remember";

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, in view of the apprehensions given expression to in the said article, will Government be pleased to give an assurance that no alteration will be made in the present structure of the Staff Selection Board without ascertaining fully the views of under-represented communities on that matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The views of all the communities will be ascertained.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The position of Government will better be communicated in the form of a press note or so. After ascertaining the views of all communities, will Government give a decision once for all?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The question is whether assurance can be given without ascertaining the views of all communities. Government will take a decision after consulting all communities.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the views of all the sub-communities will also be taken?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* If there are important sub-communities their views will also be taken.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the measure of importance?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Numerical strength, point of education, etc.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I ask whether the efficiency is needed by Government after the working of the Staff Selection Board? May I know whether Government have been reviewing the efficiency of the service after this Board has been introduced?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There are provisions in the Standing Order, for maintaining records of efficiency by the Heads of Officers of their staff.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, what are apprehensions given expression to in the said article?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The apprehension was that the Staff Selection Board may be abolished, if I remember right.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to place a copy of that discussed article on the Table of the House?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I want notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is there any examination held with reference to the recruitment by the Staff Selection Board.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* No examination is held.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the Government is in possession just now of the article in question?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* No. That is the very reason, I said, I want notice.

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENTS GIVEN BY THE STAFF SELECTION BOARD

44. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state the number of appointments given (both officiating and permanent) to Nayars, Ezhuvas and Romo-Syrians by the Staff Selection Board in different grades on the Taluk-war basis during—

(*a*) the last quarters of 1118, 1117 and 1116?

(*b*) the first two months of 1119, 1118, 1117 and 1116?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) and (*b*) Particulars of appointments made on the recommendation of the Staff Selection Board have been published in the Gazette.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Hon'ble Secretary has not yet realised that when the name of the candidate appointed is published nothing except his community is published. His taluk is not published.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There is no rule that the Taluk should be published.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* That ought to have been the reply then. I am referring to the Gazettes. In none of the notifications the taluk to which the applicant belongs is published.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are there a larger number of applicants than vacancies.

Rama Varmha Tmpuran *(Secretary to Government):* At present for certain sets of appoints there is dearth of applicants.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* What objection is there for Government to publish atleast hereafter the name of the taluk from which the candidate hails.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There is no objection; but it is unnecessary from the point of view of Government.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* It is necessary because certain Taluks are over-represented in service. Will the Government be pleased to reconsider that aspect.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Government cannot give an answer to that question now, because that is launching upon a very important deviation from the present set of rules.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Are Government aware that the Talappilly Taluk is over-represented in service?

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